

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 12CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
26 February 1981

A showman who wooed the wealthy

By Michael Zielenziger

Christopher G. Janus was so smooth and persuasive, former associates said Wednesday, that he was able to get the FBI and CIA to cooperate in his effort to find the whereabouts of the missing Peking Man.

Chicago author William Brashler, who collaborated on a book with Janus, said the investment banker had once convinced then-Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to list his Peking Man project as being "in the national interest."

As a result of the priority classification, Brashler said, FBI agents around the country were made available to help research Janus' leads on the project.

"FBI agents helped us interview every survivor of the Chinese contingent [of U.S. Marines]," said Brashler, who collaborated with Janus in the book *The Search for Peking Man*, published in 1975.

"There must have been 45 or 50 of them and they [FBI agents] helped us track them down," Brashler said. The Marines were believed to have been the last ones to see the missing fossils in 1941.

On Wednesday, a federal grand jury not as easily convinced as Kissinger once was, said Janus, 69, had never really tried to find the



CHRISTOPHER G. JANUS with cast of Peking Man skull; "Making money is easy," he is quoted as having said. (Sun-Times Photo)

missing fossils and had fraudulently obtained \$640,000 from investors.

Former associates who asked not to be named said the investment banker was a master showman, who with charisma and upper-class grace, demonstrated an uncanny ability to charm funds from the wealthy.

Asked why Janus, a wealthy man, might have been motivated to undertake such a well-publicized scheme, Brashler recalled a remark Janus once made to him.

"Making money is easy," Brashler recalls Janus as saying. "Things like publicity and coverage and actually making a name for yourself, that's tough."